

PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b> YASUHIRO ASAWA et al.	<b>Examiner:</b> Thornton, Yvette C.
<b>Serial No.:</b> 10/034,982	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> 1752
<b>Filed:</b> December 28, 2001	
<b>For:</b> TWO-LAYER IMAGEABLE ELEMENT COMPRISING THERMALLY REVERSIBLE POLYMERS	<b>Docket No.</b> 58575-279152

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Karen Hull

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on September 8, 2003, in which all pending claims 1-46 were subject to restriction. In particular, the position was taken that the application includes claims directed to three distinct inventions. The Examiner stated that Group I, claims 1-34, are drawn to an imageable element and composition, Group II, claims 35-41, are drawn to a supramolecular polymer and Group III, claims 42-46, are drawn to a method of making an imaged element.

By this response, Applicants elect to prosecute Group I, claims 1-34 in this application. This election is made with traverse.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present Restriction Requirement because any search of one of the three designated groups of claims will significantly overlap a search of any of the other groups. In short, searching these groups together does not place an undue burden on the Examiner. In contrast, requiring the Applicants to file, prosecute, and then maintain three patent applications places a significant burden on the Applicants.

No fee is believed to be necessary in connection with this response. Should an

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extension of time, or any fee be required, Applicants request that this action be undertaken and our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 be charged for the fee.

Respectfully Submitted,

YASUHIRO ASAWA et al.

Dated: October 7, 2003

By:

  
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